

TRIBUTE TO A NEWSPAPER  
LEGEND, CLAUD EASTERLY

**HON. RALPH M. HALL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 9, 1999*

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, with the passing of Claud Easterly, editor of the Denison Herald for 30 years and one of his hometown's foremost historians, comes the end of a generation of old-fashioned newspapermen who learned their trade on the job, not in the classroom, and who preferred their old typewriters to computers. Such a man was Claud Easterly of Denison, TX, who died this year at the age of 91.

During Mr. Easterly's career, he interviewed five U.S. Presidents, several Vice Presidents, Speaker of the House Sam Rayburn, my predecessor in the fourth district, bandleader John Phillip Sousa, magician Harry Houdini, Father Flanagan of Boys Town, New York Mayor LaGuardia and heavyweight boxing champion Joe Louis, among many other State and national dignitaries.

Yet he said that his greatest experiences were "in helping record the more routine events that reflected the failures and successes, joys and sorrows of the folks here at home," according to the Herald Democrat, the newspaper that succeeded the Denison Herald and to which he continued to contribute articles and serve as a reliable source until shortly before his death.

Claud Easterly knew his community well and served it well through 30 years as editor of the city newspaper. Inspired by his high school English teacher, he proved adept at writing. He was named the first editor of his high school newspaper and upon graduation from high school approached the editor of the Denison Herald, who agreed to hire him at no pay until he learned the job. Three months later, he was put on the payroll at a salary of \$12.50 per week, and as they say, the rest is history. In addition to his famous interviews, he covered many historical events, including the Red River Bridge war in 1931, the construction of Denison Dam in the 1940's and the local perspective of World War II.

In addition to his newspaper responsibilities, Mr. Easterly also was active in the civic life of Denison. He served as president of the Lions Club, a director of the Chamber of Commerce and a board member of the Public Library. Following his retirement in 1972 as editor of the newspaper, he campaigned for and was elected to the Denison City Council. He also was a member of Waples Memorial United Methodist Church.

Claud Easterly was born in Denison in 1907, the son of Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Easterly. In 1931 he married his high school sweetheart, Ruth Davis. Following her death in 1967, he married Mrs. Ophelia Taylor, who survives him. Also surviving are his son David Easterly and daughter-in-law Judy, stepson Richard Taylor and wife Carol; stepdaughter Carolyn Arnett and husband Butch, a brother Doug, 10 grandchildren and 1 great-grandchild.

Claud Easterly was proud that his son, David, followed him in the newspaper business, getting his start alongside his father at the Denison Herald. David is now president of Cox Enterprises, which owns and operates a

number of newspapers, including the Atlantic Journal & Constitution.

Mr. Speaker, Claud Easterly lived during the tenure of three representatives of the Fourth District of Texas—Speaker Sam Rayburn, Ray Roberts, and myself. He knew our district as well as we did, and so it is both an honor—and fitting—to ask my colleagues to join me in paying our last respects to this great newspaperman from Denison, TX—Claud Easterly. His memory will be preserved in the archives of his newspaper—and in the hearts and minds of those who knew him.

TRIBUTE TO ADMIRAL ARCHIE  
CLEMINS

**HON. JOHN SHIMKUS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 9, 1999*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to express my gratitude and admiration for Admiral Archie Clemins, commander of the United States Pacific Fleet.

His leadership and courage during his thirty-four years of military service was outstanding. Since his retirement on October eighth, he has been greatly missed.

I would also like to take this time to show my appreciation for the time he has spent with Scott Wagner's fifth-grade class at Horace Mann School in Mt. Vernon, Illinois. Admiral Clemins has found the time to share his skills and knowledge with these impressionable students. Utilizing stories and souvenirs from his travels, he has both educated and entertained these pupils. In addition, he has funded trips for them to the Great Lakes Navy Base as well as the base in San Diego, California.

I would like to again express my sincere appreciation for Admiral Clemins' generosity and commitment to our country and its future.

MEDICARE, MEDICAID, AND SCHIP  
BALANCED BUDGET REFINEMENT ACT OF 1999

SPEECH OF

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 5, 1999*

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to HR 3075. When the BBA of 1997 was enacted, it wrought havoc with a sea of unintended consequences in Medicare cuts.

Mr. Speaker, in my state alone, the BBA will reduce Medicare hospital payments by \$4.8 billion dollars over five years—these cuts are mostly permanent.

They will cripple the delivery of healthcare to seniors and to the under-served far beyond 2002.

While this bill begins to fix some of the devastating cuts, it does not go far enough. The bill before us today provides restorations equaling only 15.6 percent of the BBA Medicare reductions and these are only temporary fixes.

Where does the money for the fixes come from? The restorations come at the expense of direct- graduate- medical- education fund-

ing. This means that teaching hospitals in my state will be deprived of \$100 to \$130 million dollars over 5 years.

The situation of the teaching hospitals is already dire. Because of the BBA, many of these hospitals are close to financial ruin. These institutions are not only the academic centers that train our future healthcare providers—they are the hotbeds of medical research that produces life-saving treatments.

The teaching hospitals are the "safety net" hospitals that care for the nation's low-income and uninsured patients when they are sick and have nowhere else to turn.

Mr. Speaker, let me walk you through how this will hurt each off the teaching hospitals in my district.

Because of the teaching hospital provisions included in this bill, Mt. Sinai hospital will lost \$14.4 million over 5 years; Lenox Hill hospital will lost \$4.5 million over 5 years; Memorial Sloan Kettering hospital will lose \$180,00 over 5 years; Beth Israel hospital will lose \$33.9 million over 5 years; the hospital for Special Surgery will lose \$3.6 million over 5 years; the Hospital for Joint Diseases will lose \$1.9 million over 5 years.

The bill before us today neglects to adequately address the crisis in the teaching hospitals. While the bill's restoration of funding to skilled nursing facilities is favorable, only a band-aid, temporary remedy is provided for outpatient hospital departments.

Mr. Speaker, let's go back and do this right. Give us the change to offer amendments and let's have a real debate. While there are some provisions in this bill that I support, I believe that we can do a better job at protecting our Medicare beneficiaries, providers and teaching hospitals. I urge a "no" vote.

ASIAN-AMERICAN MEDICAL  
SOCIETY

**HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 9, 1999*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to announce that the Asian-American Medical Society will be hosting its 23rd Annual Asian-American Medical Society Charity Gala on Saturday, November 13, 1999, at the Radisson Hotel in Merrillville, Indiana. Each year, the Asian-American Medical Society honors prominent, extraordinary residents of Northwest Indiana for their contributions to the community. In recognition of their tremendous efforts for the betterment of Northwest Indiana, they are honored at a banquet and awarded the prestigious Crystal Globe Award. This year, four outstanding citizens from Northwest Indiana will be presented with the Crystal Globe Award for their dedication and devotion to the community.

This year's Arts and Humanities recipient, Maestro Tsung Yeh, is one of the most talented citizens of Northwest Indiana. Tsung Yeh is the Music Director and conductor of the Northwest Indiana Symphony Orchestra, a position he officially began with his acclaimed debut at the 1997 Holiday Pops concert. This season also marks Mr. Yeh's twelfth highly successful season as Music Director and Conductor of the South Bend Symphony Orchestra, and his second season as Principal Conductor of the Hong Kong Sinfonietta. In July